

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. – 34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A system for teaching a person the proper way to swing a baseball bat to meet a moving ball comprising:

a batting swing trainer including a shaft having first and second ends, a cylindrical handle attached to the first end of the shaft, a cylindrical head ~~attached to~~having a central bore with the second end of the shaft being fixed in the bore, and a graspable cylindrical slide sized to accommodate all of the fingers of a user's hand for striking the head to produce an audible signal, the slide being mounted on the shaft for axial sliding movement between the handle and the head,

a stop attached adjacent the handle, and

the graspable slide having first and second ends and including first and second buffers at its first and second ends, the first buffer limiting movement of the graspable slide toward the handle by contacting the stop adjacent the handle and the second buffer limiting movement of the graspable slide toward the head by contacting the head.

36. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35 in which the shaft has a substantially uniform circumference.

37. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35, wherein the shaft is hollow and a weighted member is secured within the shaft.

38. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~37~~37, wherein the weighted member is a solid rod.

39. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~37~~35 including a plurality of rods for securing within the shaft, the rods being of varying weight and length depending on the needs and demands of the user and the length of the shaft.

40. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35 including interchangeable heads of differing weights.

41. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~40~~40, wherein the interchangeable heads have weights selected from the group consisting of 12, 16, 20, 26, and 32 ounces.

42. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35 in which the head is adapted to receive a cap and caps of differing weights are provided.

43. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35, wherein the handle is covered with a leather wrap, foam grip or other suitable material and the slide is covered with a leather wrap, foam grip or other suitable material to match the covering of the handle.

44. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35, wherein the system includes handles of differing sizes and weights and the handles are removable and interchangeable with other handles of differing sizes and weights.

45. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35, wherein the stop comprises a ring secured to the shaft.

46. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35, wherein the stop comprises first and second portions adapted to fit together to form a ring around the shaft.

47. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35, wherein the buffers are rings affixed to the distal ends of the graspable slide.

48. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35, wherein the handle and slide have substantially the same diameter.

49. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35, wherein the shaft and the handle are constructed substantially of aluminum.

50. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35, wherein the shaft and handle are constructed substantially of a metal alloy.

In re Appln. of CIESAR et al.  
Application No. 09/882,627

51. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~35~~35 in which mechanical or electronic means are used to emit the audible signal.

52. – 55. (Canceled)